Y MUVLS NEWS<br>che mevstetter of the Sinciair Computer Users Society 1229 Rhodes Road<br>Johnson City, New York 13790

1988- Good Grief, Already!
-Days, weeks, monthe go by and I hardly pay attention, then POW another year, another dedader another time marker goes by and it seems inpcssible that the ciate, copyright on the screen could be that old!
-Hi and thanks to all user groups in our swap network. We pass on information from all sources to our members. We (who help put out the newsletter) necs the hela of All subscribers to writa articles for our letter. To keep up our ind of the exchange we conifinualiy need new input.

- How Heet- Vestal Litrary, 9 present, discussions on TS topics. Dave crhoenwetter, oreaiding.
-Dec Meet- Vestal Libräry, 7 present, demos of Bill Jones' Word Processor by Clyde Tackley and a demo of Hal Sohn's QL. Hal Sohn noted lack of on/off switches on his new QL due to British wall outlets have own on/off switch. Discussicns on packet radio, local BBS situation, and need for local member partion ation in mestings end rewsletter input. Dave 3choenwetter presiding.



## $\because$ ismet rutas aue month:

GET A SSQRAIE CALENDAF NOW-MARK IT WI:H THE ABOVE DATES AND VOU ULLL HAVE A
 LIBRARY.
 swap grograin, dure as is still dider construction. Since John has gone dise, his
 users the sway will be avaslabie at cost on (DDDS) disc, a menter with a Larken systy : do likewise, so contact John at: 20 Guilfoyle Ave.,






-TDM has a review of the 288 in latest issue, it is an on hands review, and this is part one, first impressions. Get the magazine and read it. Time Designs Magazine, 29722 Hult Rd., Colton, OR 97017.
-Jullie-a doll, computer, hi tech toy, light sensor, temperature sensor, voice recogntion, and extensive vocabually. This years Christmas toy hit, a computer that looks cute, and Dad wont get to play with it. Is this progress?

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-received from Joan Kealy:
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12-1-87
Dear Paul,
I said I'd let you know how good Dan Elliott [ Rte. 1, Box 117], Cabool mo did with my ailing 2068. He not only fixed 2 dead keys, but, cured its inability to work with Magnavox Monitor. The TS2068 had been back to Timex Service Center in No. Carolina. No go. Both companies blamed the other but I brought new TS2068 that worked with Magnavox. So fault was in older TS2068. Dan fixed all-older 2068 works better than newer now.
J.K.

NOTE: letter recived about two months from time info published so there is a cood turn around time [ about 3 weeks and $\$ 15$ ]. Good words on Mr. Elliott's scevice from Rod McGowan of Oregon City, OR. As his reputation builds, he maybe be swampsd with problem 2068s, and service may slow, be patient, it is only a part-time servicie. Other regait gervices are [ 1000/2068]: Carver Technology, 3352 Watterson Ave, Cincinnsti, OH 45227 (513)271-5575; Sunset Electronics, Contputer Services Dept., 2255 Taraval St.,San Francisco, CA 94116 (415)665-8330; [ OL ] At Computer Response, 69-B Island St., Keene, NH 03431 (603)357-1800.

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-received from D.G. Smith:
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12-23-B7
Sir(s);
Have you anvene in your group that might be willing to correspond and answer larg: variety of questions? A few would be things like, how can I interface my TS1000 (or TS1500) to a full size printer? (I have a DIGITAL EQLIFMENT LETTER PRINTER 100 [LAIO0-ZA] which was given to me.) Can I use FORTH on the TS1000, (if I can learn it)? Where can I get an owners menuel for the TS1500, and how much memory can be plugged on the back? Etc.

Thank You<br>D.G. Smith<br>R. 415 Stone St. Johnstown, PA 15900

-All you with out modens, or those of you who dont use the one you got, you are missing out on a GOOD thing. BBSs are generally FREE to users, but realize someoody has the extra change to purchase a computer and all the paraphanailia to get a BBS on line and then dedicate it to letting everyone else use it. If you use a BBS, say thanks to the SYSOPS once in awhile.
-TCCS BES- 8-N-1 (607)7E5-2118 24 HOURS 7 DAYS A WEEK;SINCUS CONFERENCE;GROUP Password for next two months is "elive". With all the yahoos not with TS computing leaving their clever comments on the SINCUS conference, this may give our aroup some "privacy".
-4wh to get into plotting? Checx with John McMichael, 1710 Palmer Drive, Laramie, WY 82070 He has a plotting package for a VIC-1520; his interface and Fic-Plot utility software, for $\$ 30.95$ : other combinations for lesser prices available. The VIC-1520 is available elsewhere for about $\$ 50$. Write for all the detalis, send a SASE.

2X81／TS1000 Tips－tharks to Don Lamen，Hindsor，NY



1）Have your program tape positioned at the beginnimg of tha sifent parcot
with the recopder in the PLAY mode and the PMBE twifan drom．atber praseing

2）Dirsct Command FAST 〈ENTER〉
3）Direct Command RAND USR 836 〈ENTER〉
4）Whan you get the regort cade C／0 at the botton sithe TV screstig stom the

5）Direct Command SLCN 〈ENTER〉
6）Direct Coiatiand＜ENTER＞
7）If listing hasge up on a REM Iine of machine code，then usina dipeci COmment LIST $n$＜ENTER＞（where $n$ equals one greater than the nuwtere 0 ．she gam （ine）．

A bethod for delefeing a block of consecutive lines from a BAS：C program． Let＇s suppose that you have a program which you want to change by deleteing everything after 287 up to line $\$ 500$ but not including line＊500．

The steps are as follows：
1）Add these five lines
288 Let $\mathrm{S}=$ PGEK 16425 ＋ 256 ＊PEEK．16426－50
249 LET LCE－S
290 POKE $5+1$ ，INT（L／256）
291 POKE S，L－ 256 ＊PEEK（S＋1）
202 STOP
2）Add these 2 lines
490 LET $E=$ PEEK $16425+256 *$ PEEK $16426+[10+$ number of digits in the line number of the first line that we added（ie．288）］
499 GOTO 288
3）Use Direct Command GOTO 498 〈ENTER〉（You will get report code 9／292 on the TV screen）
4）Use Eirect Command 288 〈ENTER〉
$-81 \mathrm{~s}, 1000 \mathrm{~s}, 1500 \mathrm{~s}$
－COMLINK I a plug in modew interface for your TS machine． 300 baud，software in orboard memory，no loading problems！－write to A．Eckhardt， 918 Anna Street， Boalsburg，PA 15827，\＄54．95（PP）
$-81 \mathrm{~s}, 1000 \mathrm{~s}, 1500 \mathrm{~s}$
－ZX－Term＊80 mocem software for your Westridge or Byto－Back modem．Many，many features，up to 80 COLUMNS，upload／download，only $4 K$ of memory，usable with any size RAMpac．$\$ 24,95$ write to Silicon Mountain Computers，C－12，Mtn．Stn．Group Box．Nelson BC ViL SP1，Canada（604）352－1668

Desk－Top Puilishing on the TS2068－see ad this issue by 8 D Lemke
1988 Computerfest see ad this issue by Jack Williamson
－Videos！MIN－FAI！：\｛SEMINAR TAPES（this past fall！）from RHG Enterprises， $14191 / 2$ 7th Street，Orisgol City，OR 97045 （503）655－7484；1－6 hour UHS tape for $\$ 15.95$ （PP）Speakers－Syd Wyncoop，Michael Carver，Harvey Taylor；Wilf Rigter and others！
-MORE Videos! 2d Annual Midwest Computerfest of seminars and of the fest! Write SMUG, POB 101, Butler, WI 53007 for list of seminars and prices, Beta or UHS; also 2nd book on mc programing by Dr. Lloyd Dreger, for $\$ 16.95+\$ 1.50$ s\$h.

A couple issues ago there was a request for ROM addresses in the 2068 which corresponded with certain Spectrum commands. We had two responses from members, and I will include them in this issue for your information, if I can obtain permission from the people at SYNTAX, or from the author Nazir Pashtoon, of the LIST Group. It was in the final issue or issues of SYNTAX (Vol. 5, "10) Det 184.


From R. Hurd: $3^{\prime \prime}$ Maxell discs going for $\$ 33.50$ per 10 from
Green Tree Computer Supplies
11 Osage Road
Rockaway, NJ 07866
-Taxes! How to figure, write: Herb Bowers, Sr., 2589 Woodshire Circle, Chesapeake, VA 23323 (304)487-5924 "W-4 Program how to figure Employee Withholding"=\$7.00 (PP); "The NEW Tax Law and You", $\$ 7.00$ (PP), or both for $\$ 12.00$ (PP). He also has a income tax preparer program for $\$ 29.50$ (PP)called "GWIK-1040". More! write Herb!
-The F.C.C. "Federal Communication Commission" has been mulling a $\$ 5$ per hour tax on online telecommunication information services, like GEnie, Source and Compuserve. Of course if the tax is imposed, the cost will about double current online fies to the home user. January 1,1988 is the start up date for the extra charge. Write to the F.C.C. and your congressman and your senators, and let him know your faelings, it may not be too late to have them suspend the tax.

Hello and Thank you to the following RENEWING members: Jim Kerr, Dolton, ILL; Jack Deuber, Casselberry, FLA; Don Lambert, Cedar Rapids, IA; Gerhard Meyer, Oceanside, NY; Laurie Futrell, Tucker, GA; Marinus Heuseveldt, Lantana, FLA; Lowel: Heine, Minneapolis, MN; James Wilson, Akron, OH:

In reviewing several old newsletters, there are a lot of names of users and user groups no longer heard from. Where do they all go? Computer users are individuals, and the reasons for purchasing a computer range far and wide: The reason for quitting could be; lack of interest, time, money, space, spouse, movement to another system; or complete dissatisfaction with computing. Our TS computing is a tremendous investment in time and learning effort, and with the instant gratification demanded by many, a Cray II isn't fast snough. The reasons for staying, curiosity, mind strecthing, a challenge, a fun hobby; keeping a useful tool. The ideal of some is to build their own system, others to buy the best, and others to make the most out of what they have. We are shedding the game players, the superficial, the "in" types; we are getting down to the HARD core TS and Sinclair computer users. Anyone who has expanded their system has had to learn anew, try, experiment, and redo or reurite the manual, has had to use their grey matter on anything brought or homemade. Any program copied out of a sagazine or book has to be debugged which teaches BASIC and frustrates many. A relatively simple matter for a brand name computer owner to add a disc; is a complex and for some an expensive undertaking. Modem users have tackled a new frontier with handholding by co-users, shared info from users around the 4
country, not an 800 number. The whole picture of the modem user and what and wher to go was put out, not by a national publisher, but by a couple of guys who got the ball rolling, not once but twice. The same with commercial software, bugs and printer and disc problems are not solved by the vendor, but by the user or his network of friends. Our numbers maybe fewer, but the friendliness of the remaining few is higher. Fewer users, fewer vendors, fewer manufactors but a closeness of the TS community which would mever happen in agale or atari or ibm world. Though I haven't been to a Ts computerfest yet : here seen videos of fests past, read of the crowds, seen pictures of the pariscipents, and enjoyed the atmosphere from afar. Our local group has boan ir ow sthe star a
 City, today we enjoy the efforts of people.from Germay to Oregon, Texas to Canada. I predicted the TS groups would be history by now, and that the only place to find a TS computer would be the garage sale. With three disc systems, 300 or 1200 baud modems, ramdisk potential, two national publicatiens (Time Designs and Syncware), OLs and 288s, over thirty active user groups? 15 Computerfests, and many BBSs and Timex conferences and many, many active and supportive vendors, 1988 will be another year to show how wrong I was in my prediction. Support your local user group by attending, paying dues and participating. Support your vendor by telling him there you saw his ads, by telling others of his service and by not pirating software. Support your BBSs by learning how to use it, use it, say hi and thanks to the sysops, and donate some bucks once in awhile. Subscribe to newsletters, magazines, and write to the editors, write a review or an article. You'll get more out of it, by putting a little more in to the $T 8$ community.

Newsletters, BESs, magazines are our only way to support the individuals far from a user group. Let's use these connections in a positive way and soon we all be looking ahead at the 1990s and and still enjoying our TS computers!

From all of us here at SINCUS-Hi, Happy New Year, we appreciate reading your newsletters, we thank the many corresponding nembers for their support and hope to hear from you all in the new year.


POWERFUL PROJECTS WITH YOUR TIMEX/SINCLAIR
by Jim Stephens, available from WMJ Data Systems, 4 Butterfly Dr., Hauppauge, NY 11788, $66+$ +2.95 S \& H.

This book came out in 1995 with no more fanfare than expected from a major publisher recently orphaned computer and indeed, it covers an area that has not really fulfilled the prophecies for the TS computers, controlling "the real world". Not to make projects too mundane; this book includes robotics.

For the techtype father there are projects for son or daughter's science fair; you can throw in a speech synthesizer to humanize that robot made from hobby shop parts and possibly an old typewriter. Stephens says, "It gives you a special sense of accomplishment to see your old typewriter scuttle around the room, picking up objects and dropping them into your hand." I think I see a way to estabiish detente with your computer widow.

But, frankly, this book maybe of greatest use to the non -hardware hacker, for apparently the years have winnowed out most of the non-technical TS hobbyists. The remaining $10 \%$ still electronically unenlightened are thrown constantly into "hmms" (visualize the polyphonic variety of Mandarin Chinese) while reading SWN or 73\% of newsletter coverage; but the very worst is conversing with the EEs. This book is directed most prominently to the TS2068 but adaptable to TS1000 and 1500.

Especially helpful is the profusion of illustrations, photographs, mini-schematics-an average of one per page. Abstract theory with electricity is difficult but because this book is written at the application level, Stephens explains and shows what a breadboard is, how to wirewrap, what a dozen or more ICs look like. The last time someone described a board with socketing, "hmm". Now I know exactly what it is. By page 62 I yearned for my own VOM and solder pencil.

Vocabulary, concepts, excellent explication of electrical terminology may be unneeded by $90 \%$ of the $T \xi$ hobbyists still hanging in, but they have kids and wives. siome software, hardware, a programmable stereo system, garden sprinkler, model railroad, or a touch of microbotics might be just the thing to involve some non-techies you are very involved with.
--Joan Kealy
Ed Notes Thanks Joans if you have a hi or low opinion of a book or software for your TS computer, write a little review of it, share your views, it will stir someone to buy it and use it or to avoid it and save some money. Use Joan's review as a neat how to write a review if you've never done so since high school! Joan belongs to 23 user groups and if you have gone through our stack of newsletter swaps you will see her name in virtually every issue. Thank God there art several good people like Joan out there making life just a little bit easier for newsletter editors!

## DATA TRANSFER DN THE SERIAL PDRT

Many users now own or have access to more than one computer and find one may have certain advantages over another for creating and editing data files. At times it is easier to create a fil: on one system but another may offer more flexibility for printing or staring these files. Sometime we may just have used one. for a long time and have mariy files saved when along comes a new system with different storage medium or incompatable formats on the same medium. To save the time of re-entering the data again it is much simpler to just senc the file to the other. computer.

This procedure can be quite simple if both computers ingve a serial port and communications software. The data rate can be increased to whatever speed the computer can handle. To use the serial port a small imexpensive piece of hardware must be added "THE NULL MODEM".

The null modem is nothing more than a cable with some signal wires crossed to "fool" the serial port into thinking that it's sommunicating. With a serial device. The only electrical connection between the two computers can be accomplished by three wires, GROUND or COMMON, TRANSMIT DATA and RECEIVE DATA. However the serial port and the communications software need some other conditions before it can establish the connection. It is therefore necessary to jumper outbound signals back to the inbound signals. For my version of the null modem I will show the pin numbering for the 25 pin $D-s h e l \mid$ connector. Your pin configuration may differ but connecting the same signal wires as shown will produce the same end results. THE NULL MODEM

SYSTEM A
TRANSMIT DATA (pin 2)-------------m-meCEIVE DATA (pin 3) RECEIVE DATA (pin 3)-----------------TRANSMIT DATA (pin 2) SIGNAL GROUND (pin 7)-------------------SIGNAL GROUND (pin 7) REQ. TO SEND (pin 4)--] [--REQ. TO SEND (pin 4) CLEAR TO SEND (pin 5)--] [--CLEAR TO SEND (pin 5) DATA TERM. RDY(pin 20)-] [--DATA TERM.RDY(pin 20) DATA SET. RDY (pin 6)--] [--DATA SET RDY (pin 6) DATA CARR DET (pin 8)--] [--DATA CARR DET (pin 8)

Each system will activate the REQ TO.SEND and the DATA TERM RDY
I ine and the jumpers will activate CLEAR TO SEND, DATA SET RDY and DATA CARR DET. If your system does not have all of the above ines present on the serial port then they can be omitted on the nuil modem.

Both systems must be operating at the same speed (baud rate) and parameters ( $8, n, 1$ ). Up and down loading is now done to transfer the files, use simple buffer transfers or XMODEM if error checking is desired.

Dave Schoenwetter SINCUS 1988
Ed. Note: Dave uploaded this artic!e from his IBM-PC to the local BBS, TCCS as a text file. I then downloaded it, "NULMODEM. TXT" via Xmodem and Mterm (Casby's Loader V Program) saved the file to tape, ran it through Casby's Unloader program, loaded it into my Mscript, editted it, and printed it out. Start' to finish about 35 minutes, and I didn't have to get the wife to shovel the driveway.




 next ont on December 6. We penerally metinge fo far with the

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Vacation. How about the best of All Horlde'? by Joe Hilliamson





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 1792 g3－20－97 sincus files b4 calumn print on 2068 BACFUP．！ HALLOWEN．BAS ANTHEM．BAS TYCHK．BA！ WESPPP．BA！ BURTER．BAS $64 \mathrm{COL}-\mathrm{F}$
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